

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 FEA-01 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05

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R 050236Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904

INFO ERDA GERMANTOWN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3632

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, AS

SUBJ: U.S. URANIUM ENRICHMENT SUPPLY POSITION

REF: (A) STATE 126581 NOTAL

(B) CANBERRA 3450 NOTAL

(C) CANBERRA 0138 NOTAL

1. SINCE SIR LENOX HEWITT, SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS AND ENERGY NOT AVAILABLE ON SHORT NOTICE, SCIENCE LIAISON OFFICER PERSONALLY DELIVERED LETTER ADDRESSED TO HEWITT, BASED ON REF (A), TO LARKIN, FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, URANIUM AND ELECTRICITY DIVISION, DME, JUNE 4. COPIES OF LETTER SENT SEPARATELY TO AUSTRALIAN AEC AND DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. SLO OUTLINED ORALLY POINTS CONTAINED LETTER AND ASKED LARKIN TO BRING LETTER TO HEWITT'S ATTENTION. LARKIN READ LETTER WITH INTEREST BUT SAID HE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE ON IT. HE AGREED TO TRANSMIT IT PROMPTLY TO HEWITT.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: LARKIN'S LACK OF RESPONSE NOT SURPRISING SINCE HE HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN PROMOTED TO NEW JOB AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, SINCE GOA SEES ITSELF AS FUTURE COMPETITOR NOT CUSTOMER OF U.S. URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES. AS DEPARTMENT
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WELL AWARE, MINERALS AND ENERGY MINISTER CONNOR (REF B AND

PREVIOUS) REMAINS DETERMINED TO BUILD LOCAL ENRICHMENT PLANT TO
COMPETE WITH U.S. HEWITT HIMSELF IN EUROPE LAST JANUARY,
ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS, SAID "IT WOULD BE NICE"
IF AUSTRALIAN ENRICHMENT PLANT WERE TO REPLACE PROPOSED FOURTH
U.S. DIFFUSION PLANT (REF C). IN LIGHT OF THESE GOA SENTIMENTS,
IT IS PROBABLY THAT EVER-SUSPICIOUS CONNOR WILL SEE OUR LATEST
ASSURANCES AS DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO COVER UP ANY U.S. INABILITY
TO GUARANTEE FUTURE SUPPLIES OF ENRICHMENT SERVICES. IN LIGHT
OF CONNOR AND HEWITT'S LESS THAN RECEPTIVE ATTITUDES ON THIS
TOPIC, EMBASSY SEES NO VALUE IN PRESSING THEM FOR COMMENTS.
HOWEVER, WE WILL REPORT ANY SUCH COMMENTS WE RECEIVE.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 05 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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